AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1.   (Previously Presented) A method for reducing network bandwidth wastage

incident to sending an electronic document to a nonexistent member of a

distribution list having multiple destination addresses for respective members,

comprising:

receiving a document by a document distribution server;

recording in a database a document identifier and the distribution list;

distributing the document to said members of the distribution list;

receiving, in response to distributing to a first member of the distribution list, an

error message comprising the document identifier;

looking up the document identifier in the database so as to identify the

distribution list; and

automatically deleting the destination address for the first member from the

distribution list so that a subsequent sending to the distribution list avoids

corresponding subsequent error messages.

2.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said wastage comprises bandwidth

required for:

said distributing the document to the nonexistent member;

said error message received in response to said distributing;

a reply by a second member of the distribution list, in response to said

distributing, which is distributed to the nonexistent member; and

an error message responsive to said reply.

3.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein members of the distribution list

        receive distributions addressed such that replies to said distributions are directed

        to said members of the distribution list.

4.   (Original) The method of claim 3, further comprising:

        disposing a Messaging Application Programming Interface (MAPI) application

                program within a first computing device;

        composing by the user of the document with said application program; and

        disposing the document distribution server in a second computing device.

5.   (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein said application program includes an

        object-oriented programming language

6.   (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein said application program comprises a

        Microsoft Outlook e-mail functionality.

7.   (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

        providing a Microsoft Windows operating system environment having a

                Messaging Application Programming Interface (MAPI);

        disposing a MAPI application program within a first computing device;

        composing by the user of the document with said application program; and

        disposing the document distribution server in a second computing device.

8.   (Previously Presented) A method for reducing network bandwidth wastage

incident to sending an electronic document to a nonexistent member of a

distribution list, comprising:

executing an e-mail application program utilizing a selected one of: Microsoft

Messaging Application Programming Interface (MAPI)-based, and

Microsoft Active Messaging;

addressing the electronic document to the distribution list;

recording in a database a document identifier cross-referencing the electronic

document with the distribution list;

sending the electronic document with said MAPI application program;

distributing the electronic document to members of the distribution list;

receiving an error message for said distributing to the nonexistent member, said

error message comprising the document identifier;

looking up the document identifier of said error message in the database so as to

identify the distribution list; and

deleting the nonexistent member from the distribution list.

9.   (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising:

receiving the electronic document by a distribution server which performs said

distributing the electronic document, receiving the error message, and

looking up the identifier.

10.   (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising:

determining the identifier based on attributes of the electronic document, said

attributes comprising a subject identifier, a sending time, and a distribution

list identifier.

11.   (Previously Presented) An apparatus for reducing network bandwidth wastage

incident to sending an electronic document to a nonexistent member of a

distribution list having multiple destination addresses for respective members,

comprising:

a machine accessible medium having instructions encoded thereon, which when

executed by the machine, are capable of directing the machine to perform:

receiving a document by a document distribution server;

recording in a database a document identifier and the distribution list;

distributing the document to said members of the distribution list;

receiving, in response to distributing to a first member of the distribution list, an

error message comprising the document identifier;

looking up the document identifier in the database so as to identify the

distribution list; and

automatically deleting the destination address for the first member from the

distribution list so that a subsequent sending to the distribution list avoids

corresponding subsequent error messages.

12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, said instructions including further instructions capable of directing the machine to perform:

receiving distributions addressed to the distribution list so that replies to said distributions are directed to said members of the distribution list.

13. (Original) The apparatus of claim 12, said instructions including further instructions capable of directing the machine to perform:

disposing a Messaging Application Programming Interface (MAPI) application program within a first computing device;

composing by the user of the document with said application program; and

disposing the document distribution server in a second computing device.

14. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said application program includes an object-oriented programming language.

15. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said application program comprises a Microsoft Outlook e-mail functionality.

16. (Original) The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising:

a second computing device, communicatively coupled to the system, in which the document distribution server is disposed; and

wherein said instructions include further instructions capable of directing the machine to perform: executing a Microsoft Windows operating system environment providing a Messaging Application Programming Interface.

17.   (Original) An apparatus for reducing network bandwidth wastage incident to

sending an electronic document to a nonexistent member of a distribution list,

comprising:

a machine accessible medium having instructions encoded thereon capable of

directing the machine to perform:

executing a Messaging Application Programming Interface (MAPI)-based e-mail

application program;

addressing the electronic document to the distribution list;

recording in a database an identifier cross-referencing the electronic document

with the distribution list;

sending the electronic document with said MAPI application program;

distributing the electronic document to members of the distribution list;

receiving an error message for said distributing to the nonexistent member, said

error message comprising the identifier;

looking up the identifier of said error message in the database so as to identify the

distribution list; and

deleting the nonexistent member from the distribution list.

18.   (Original) The apparatus of claim 17, said instructions including further

instructions capable of directing the machine to perform:

receiving the electronic document by a distribution server which performs said

distributing the electronic document, said receiving the error message, and

said looking up the identifier.

19. (Original) The apparatus of claim 17, said instructions including further

instructions capable of directing the machines to perform:

determining the identifier based on attributes of the electronic document, said

attributes comprising a subject identifier, a sending time, and a distribution

list identifier.